

pointed to carry out the plans. In the report that was made by Mr. Fowler, he certainly did mention some of the matters now made the subject of a charge, but he mentioned them in this way: "the extent of the ground and gardens will probably be governed by local circumstances;" and he made allusions by which the possibility of agriculture and horticulture coming into operation had occurred to his mind, and so with regard to the supply of water, and other matters, but it was clear he had come to no definite conclusion. Mr. Fowler was called upon to attend the justices in August. He had been asked to undertake this not in a professional manner, that was really the substance of the case. He was asked,—"Would he undertake to do it for a round sum?" He answered as every respectable person would answer following a respectable profession,—"I will do nothing which the rest of my brethren in the profession would consider improper as a member of that profession; its character and honour I will maintain, and I will not under-bargain the rest of my brethren,—that is the usual charge we make, and as an honest member of the profession, I think I ought not to receive less;" and it appeared to him (the Judge), that was the basis of the arrangement; and what ultimately would be for the consideration of the jury would be this, whether they thought in the expenditure that took place beyond the original sum, he was strictly within the resolution; if so, he was not entitled, if not he was. The amount finally agreed for was 40,000*l.*, his per centage upon that was 2,000*l.*; but then Mr. Fowler says, "there are 14,000*l.* or 15,000*l.* spent beyond: upon 7,000*l.* I do not charge, for they are extras, but on 7,800*l.*, I do, for they are additions;" that is, he says, as to the first, "they are matters that grow out of, and are intimately connected with, the work, so that I cannot fairly charge for them." On the other hand he says, "Certain of these matters form no part of the original plan, and they are additions." It seemed to him the true question the jury had to decide was, what was the reasonable and liberal construction of the resolution, the magistrates intending to limit their expenditure to 40,000*l.*, and to treat with him on the footing of a 5 per cent. transaction, considering whether it could embrace the contract of Harvey, which amounted to 7,800*l.* On the 7,102*l.* Mr. Fowler made no charge, they were extras. Then he says, that inasmuch as the original plans did not embrace any of Harvey's, amounting to 7,800*l.*, he was entitled to his 5 per cent. on that, and he certainly had been put to considerable trouble and labour on that account.

The jury retired, and after an interval of an hour and twenty minutes, returned a verdict for the defendant. A new trial will of course be moved for.

ELECTRO-TELEGRAPHIC PROGRESS.

WORKS have been laid to Windsor for facility of communication between the sovereign and her representatives in Parliament, &c. The offices in the Strand, are open night and day for Parliamentary, law, or other expresses between the metropolis and upwards of 230 of the larger commercial and manufacturing towns in England and Scotland, through more than 1,500 miles of way, besides short branches. —The late speech from the throne was telegraphed at once from the Lotherby station to all the chief towns and newspapers in the empire. The multiple time taken, says a contemporary, in streaming off its 954 words was about half an hour, or 31 words a minute. Between Liverpool and Manchester it was transmitted by the printing process at the rate of 15 words a minute. —The British Telegraphic Company, for a more economical working line, are proceeding with their Bill, which has been declared to have complied with the standing orders. Their scale of remuneration from Government is to be fixed by the Board of Trade. —The French Government, it is said, contemplate a measure to open the French electric telegraphs to the public. The Minister of the Interior has presented a Bill for the establishment of three lines from Tonnerre, Havre, and Angers, to cost 685,665*l.* The committee also proposes four others, viz.: from Chalons-sur-Marne, Nevers, Châteauroux, and Dunkirk. A sum of 900,637*l.* to suffice for the construction of the seven. The greatest speed attained under the committee's inspection was 87 letters in a minute; but the reading then became difficult, and frequently even impossible. The despatches of the Government are conveyed at the rate of 76 letters a minute. —According to the *Press*, Mr. Brett's contract for the sub-marine

line from Calais to Dover, binds him to have it completed by 1st September next, unless stopped by the French Government, and at a cost of 459,000*l.* The length is 18 miles English, but the telegraph, of seven wires, is to be 23 miles long, to allow for oscillation. —This is a small affair compared with the next we have to notice, namely, one between New York and the Isle of Wight, the projectors of which are to bring their plan before Congress at its present session. They propose to lay down a substantial insulated wire of 36 fibres, coated one half-inch with gutta serena, to guarantee its working with integrity for ten years, and to complete it in twenty months from the date of contract, for a sum not to exceed 3,000,000 dollars. —The *Montreal Herald* announces that the line to Bytown, in Canada, is nearly completed, and that a new cap, made of New Jersey clay, invented by Mr. Farney, has been used with great success:—"The following is a list of the different lines in Canada:—Quebec and Halifax, 200 miles; Quebec and Toronto, 556; Toronto and Hamilton, 46; Montreal and Bytown, 120; Hamilton and London, 94; Niagara, 58; Chippewa, 15; Montreal and Troy, 52; total, 1,133 miles.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

THE site of the new Lunatic asylum at Brentwood has been staked out. The building will be 800 feet long by 500 deep. —The public baths at Leicester have been extended. The swimming bath is 60 yards in length, 17 feet wide, and 3 to 6 feet deep. It holds 100,000 gallons. The roof is supported by pillars, and over the cross beams are various mottoes. —An Extra-mural Cemetery Company is in course of formation at Brighton: capital, 20,000*l.*, in 2,000 shares of 10*l.* each; deposit, 1*l.* per share. —An effort is being made at Portsmouth to erect a new Athenaeum in place of the society's present building. —The church of Holy Trinity, Stratford-on-Avon, is shortly to be surveyed by an architect, with the view of increasing the accommodation. —After a lapse of nine years, daily Divine service is about to be resumed in Hereford Cathedral. Preparations are going on in the nave for that purpose, and, it is expected, will be completed by 1st March. —The repair of the old castle of Carnarvon has now been completed, under the eye of an architect from the Board of Woods and Forests, Mr. Salvin, and it is said that not only Conway Castle, but other remnants of feudal times now standing in Wales—namely, the Castles of Beaumaris, Harlech, Rhuddlan, Criccieth, Carew, Caerphilly, and Pembroke, will be repaired and preserved from further decay at the expense of the Crown. —It is intended to extend the Corn Exchange, in Brunswick-street, Liverpool, by erecting a range of offices over it in front. The dimensions of the building at present are 116 feet by 62 feet; the area, 763 square yards; the number of stands, 129; and the mean height, 15 feet. When extended according to the plans, it will be 103 feet by 95 feet; the area 1,133 square yards, exclusive of offices; and the stands may be increased to 190; the mean height to be 29 feet. The room will be lighted from the roof, which will be of open iron-work. —All Saints Church, Grosvenor-square, Manchester, the property of the Rev. Dr. Burton, the pastor, was much damaged by fire on Wednesday in last week. Some burning embers appear to have been carried through the flue of the stove into a large scaffolding hole, that had only been covered by the wall plate, which communicated the fire to the roof, the whole of which was destroyed and the organ and pews were much injured. The total damage is estimated at 3,500*l.* The congregation have already met to adopt measures for restoring the edifice. —The town council of Preston have voted 8,000*l.* for the erection of public baths and washhouses to contain 100 baths and 100 washing compartments, on the model at Goulston-square, but at, it is said, a greatly reduced cost. —A Roman Catholic chapel and priest's house are about to be erected at Otley. —A new congregational chapel is in course of erection at Cockermouth, by Messrs. Fleming and White, builders. It is in the Perpendicular style, with three gables to the front, and is built of white freestone.

—The parish church of Collumpton, Devon, was re-opened on Tuesday, the 12th instant. A cumbrous gallery has been removed from the noted Lane's Chapel, and this aisle and the church generally, seated with low framing, in wainscot, with a good proportion of open free seats, and an increase of accommodation. The organ has been divided, and removed into the tower, the panelled arch having been previously partitioned across the west gallery—reconstructed, and its Elizabethan fronts repaired and varnished. The rood screen, a remarkably fine one, repaired, and disencumbered of an Italian cornice, which has given place to a tall cresting of Tudor flower, the whole being gilt and painted in colours, imitating the old work. A new carved octagonal pulpit is ascended by a staircase, with tracery defences. The tracery of the windows has been repaired, and the lights glazed with ground glass. The architect is Mr. Ashworth, of Exeter: the contractor, Mr. Mason.

VIEW AND DETAILS OF THE BANQUETING HOUSE, WHITEHALL.

MR. OCTAVIUS HANSARD, a young architect, has published an elevation of Inigo Jones's Banqueting House to a large scale,* and two sheets of details, one embracing the inferior order, and its windows, with the ornament between the capitals above, and the other the superior order, its window, and balustrade. The measurements appear to have been very carefully taken, and are fully given. Both the view and the details are beautifully drawn, and confer great credit on Mr. Hansard; they should be in every office portfolio.

A few pages of particulars concerning the building accompany the prints, but as we have elsewhere given these, we need not repeat them here.† Mr. Hansard observes that "on a comparison of the original drawings by Inigo Jones (in the library of Worcester College, Oxford), with the structure itself, it would appear that at some period the rusticated basement has been altered, probably on the occasion of a repair; indeed, there can be no doubt of the rustication of the west front having been originally similar to that of the east." The total length of the front, on the plinth line, is 121 feet 3 inches; the total height, 75 feet 3½ inches.

BURFORD'S PANORAMA OF THE POLAR REGIONS.

IN presenting a beautiful painting of the Polar regions, as seen during the expedition of Capt. Jas. Ross, in 1846-9, from drawings which were taken by Lieut. Browne, of *The Enterprise*, Mr. Burford has produced a striking effect, by dividing the great circle into two, and exhibiting on one side the Polar seas at midnight in the summer season, and on the other a similar scene at noon, under all the sublime severities of an arctic winter. In the first the vessels float, amidst towering icebergs and tangible desolation. In the second, the vessels are ice-bound and snow-covered in a vast and oppressive solitude, bringing forcibly to the mind the severities and privations endured by the crew. A wall of snow blocks is built around each ship to prevent the abstraction of heat, and there is a wall of similar construction connecting the two vessels to facilitate communication. Both views are admirably painted and full of interest.

PANORAMA OF NEW ZEALAND. VENTILATION OF PUBLIC ROOMS.

THE Panorama of New Zealand, now exhibiting in Leicester-square, being the work of a surveyor and engineer, Mr. S. C. Brees, known as the author of "Railway Practice," may be regarded as an actual chart of the country, wherein not merely the principal buildings, but every settler's house and clearing, may be found; and, when are added to this a fine country and great cleverness in its delineation, more so in some parts than in others by the way, it will be seen that it has the essentials for an exhibition of great interest. A month's reading would fail to give anything

* Woods, Edinburgh.
† Vol. VII., p. 292.